

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1343 HD1
A BILL RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

PRESENTATION TO
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY
BRIGADIER GENERAL ARTHUR J. LOGAN
ADJUTANT GENERAL
AND DIRECTOR OF THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
February 25, 2015

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

I am Brigadier General Arthur J. Logan, State Adjutant General and the Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 1343 HD1.

This measure appropriates \$328,000.00 for the establishment of a business recovery center within the Department of Defense. This appropriation is necessary for the State of Hawaii to receive the Federal match of \$1,159,000.00 to support this initiative.

A business recovery center is an online website where business and government agencies collaborate before, during and after a disaster. Federal disaster program information is distributed through this portal.

After a major disaster, the longer a business remains closed dramatically increases the risk of that business failing. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has found that about 40% of small businesses fail after a catastrophic event.

The business recovery center will be an important part of Hawaii's recovery after a major disaster. Please support this important resiliency initiative.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 1343 HD1.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON HB 1343

PRESENTATION TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY

DOUG MAYNE
ADMINISTRATOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
February 24, 2015

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee.

I am Doug Mayne and I am the Administrator of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of HB 1343.

House Bill 1343 appropriates bond funding to match a federal grant of \$1,159,000 to enable Hawai'i to develop a Business Recovery Center (BRC). The purpose of the Business Recovery Center is to become a location (physical and virtual) for the private sector and government to share information and to collaborate before, during and after disasters.

Activities that will occur in the BRC include: establishing information channels to allow the private sector to access information including the status of utilities and roads; allowing the private sector to post information about operating hours during and after disasters; and a location to post requests for proposals so local businesses can bid on contracts let during and after disasters.

The focus of the BRC is to develop procedures to speed information flow and collaboration to ensure the economy of Hawai'i recovers as quickly as possible after a disaster.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** to HB 1343.



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 2:45 P.M.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol**

RE: HOUSE BILL 1343 HD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 1343 HD1, which appropriates moneys for the establishment of a business recovery center within the Department of Defense.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing about 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

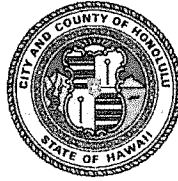
Businesses play an important role in providing resources and information after a natural disaster. Establishment of a business recovery center to facilitate communication between state and county agencies and local businesses is a good start to help businesses and their employees begin to recover and revitalize the economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
650 SOUTH KING STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 723-8960 • FAX: (808) 524-3439

LATE

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



MELVIN N. KAKU
DIRECTOR

PETER J.S. HIRAI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 24, 2015

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
and Members
Committee on Finance
House of Representatives
415 Beretania Street, Room 306
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Luke and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill (H.B.) 1343, HD1, Relating to Public Safety

I am Melvin Kaku, the Director of the City and County of Honolulu Department of Emergency Management. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of HB 1343, HD1.

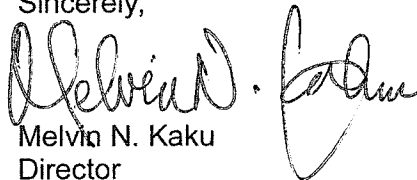
House Bill 1343, HD1, appropriates bond funding to match a federal grant of \$1,159,000 to enable Hawai'i to develop a Business Recovery Center (BRC). The purpose of the Business Recovery Center is to provide a nexus for the private sector and government to share information and to collaborate before, during and after disasters.

Such collaboration occurs in other localities as a "best practice" model, where government and the corporate world synchronizes information and resources toward seamless response and recovery.

President Obama has focused us on the "whole of community" approach. The BRC will bring the private and public sector together, and speed information flow and collaboration to ensure Hawai'i recovers as quickly as possible after a disaster.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** to HB 1343, HD1.

Sincerely,


Melvin N. Kaku
Director

cc: Roy K. Amemiya, Jr., Managing Director